



# The Sustainable Development Goals: What do they mean for Dayton, Ohio?

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POL 334

# Human Rights City Defined

“A municipality that refers explicitly to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights standards and/or laws in their policies, statements, and program”



# The **Sustainable Development Goals** are a great starting point on the road to becoming a Human Rights City



**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**  
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



# Sustainable Development Goal 1

“End poverty in all its forms everywhere”

1.2

reduce poverty by at least 50%

1.4

equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources

1.5

build resilience to environmental, economic and social disasters

1





# SDG 1.2 in Dayton

32.7% of the Dayton population lives below the poverty line. That is equal to one out of every 3.1 residents.

**Challenges:** poverty rate in Montgomery County higher than rate of the state, opioid crisis

**Opportunity:** abundance of organizations working to alleviate poverty



# SDG 1.4 in Dayton

Generational poverty and systematic racism causes unequal access to economic resources. The National Association of Real Estate Brokers shows home ownership gap between whites and blacks is increasing.

**Challenges:** people born into poverty tend to stay in poverty, racism stands in the way of equal access to jobs, housing, etc.

**Opportunities:** petition wording approved for campaign to raise minimum wage in Ohio to \$13



# SDG 1.5 in Dayton

Those in poverty are disproportionately affected by events of natural disaster. The Dayton tornadoes of 2019 impacted those already living below the poverty line, and placed even more individuals below that line.

**Challenges:** the residual effects of the tornadoes leave hundreds still struggling

**Opportunities:** the community coming together more than ever to lend a helping hand



# Advocacy Campaign

A few of the many places working to reduce poverty in Dayton:

Daybreak

Brothers Helping Brothers

Home Full

The Dayton Foundation

YWCA Dayton

Helping Hands



*What now?* Encourage these organizations to expand their reach from just providing assistance. Work with legislature on implementing governmental change to see that real change is possible.



# Personal Reflection

The Sustainable Development Goals seem unattainable and out of reach when just looking at them through a broad lens. After narrowing my scope, and localizing many of these goals to Dayton I was able to see where steps are being made/need to be made. Each of these goals is interconnected, and in order to see improvement in Dayton's human rights, it is essential to find these connections within our own community. Eradicating poverty does not merely start by helping the poor, but by discovering systematic reasons behind the poverty experienced by different groups.

